

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TOKYO 05369 311150Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 STRE-00 AGRE-00 CEA-01
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15
STR-07 ITC-01 SP-02 SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 NSCE-00
USIE-00 INRE-00 SSO-00 /095 W
-----057037 311153Z /23

O 311141Z MAR 78

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6661

TREASURY/DEPT WASHDC IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 05369

ALSO PASS STR ELECTRONICALLY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, JA, US

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PROTEST COLOR TV ANTIDUMPING DUTY
ASSESSMENTS

REF: TOKYO 5241

1. SUMMARY: MINISTER KOMOTO ASKED AMBASSADOR TO REQUEST
FEW DAYS DELAY IN TREASURY ANNOUNCEMENT IN COLOR TV
DUMPING DUTY CASE. GOJ HAS NOT HAD WHAT IT CONSIDERS
ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY PREPARE INDUSTRY FOR "SHOCK"
OF ANNOUNCEMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. MORIYAMA, DIRECTOR GENERAL, MITI MACHINERY AND
INFORMATION BUREAU, SUMMONED ECOMIN LATE MARCH 31 TO
CONVEY REQUEST OF MITI MINISTER KOMOTO THAT AMBASSADOR
TRANSMIT MINISTER'S REQUEST THAT TREASURY DELAY ANNOUNCE-
MENT OF ACTION ON COLOR TV ANTIDUMPING DUTY ASSESSMENTS.

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PAGE 02 TOKYO 05369 311150Z

3. MORIYAMA SAID JAPANESE GOVERNMENT AND INUDSTRY HAD
BEEN SURPRISED AT SPEED WITH WHICH TREASURY HAD MOVED,
THINKING THEY HAD UNDERTAKING FROM US AS PART OF COLOR
TV OMA PACKAGE THAT THERE WOULD BE ADEQUATE TIME FOR
GENUINE CONSULTATIONS IN ADVANCE OF ANY TREASURY ANNOUNCE-
MENT. HE SAID JAPANESE INDUSTRY FELT IT HAD NOT HAD
ADEQUATE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE ALL THE FACTS KNOWN AND

THAT SINCE THE INDUSTRY HAD COOPERATED FREELY IN SUPPLY-
ING INFORMATION REQUESTED BY TREASURY THEY EXPECTED MORE
TIME FOR GOJ TO CONDUCT DISCUSSIONS WITH TREASURY.

4. TAKING ADVANTAGE OF PRESENCE OF HEIMLICH OF STR AND
RAY OF TREASURY, U.S. SIDE REVIEWED WITH MORIYAMA OUR
RECOLLECTION OF OMA PACKAGE AND REVIEWED PROBLEMS THAT
WOULD BE INVOLVED IN DELAY OF TREASURY ANNOUNCEMENT IN
VIEW OF UNDERSTANDING THAT IMMINENCE OF DECISION WAS NOW
WIDELY KNOWN IN U.S.

5. MORIYAMA WAS INFORMED OF AMBASSADOR TOGO'S CONVERSA-
TIONS AT TREASURY. IT APPEARS TO US THT JAPANESE
ARE GENUINELY HURT AT NOT HAVING HAD MORE ADVANCE NOTICE
OF TREASURY DECISION AND THAT THEY FIND THEMSELVES IN A
PARTICULARLY WEAK POSITION TOWARD THEIR INDUSTRY BECAUSE
APPEARANCE OF CONSULTATION HAS NOT BEEN PROVIDED. THEY
SEEM LESS CONCERNED ABOUT SUBSTANCE OF TREASURY
DECISION, ESPECIALLY AS CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR TOGO,
THAN ABOUT TIMING OF THE PROCEDURE AND IMPRESSION GIVEN
THAT GOJ HAD NO CHANCE TO INFLUENCE OUR DECISION.

6. COMMENT: IN TYPICAL JAPANESE PROCEDURE, GOVERNMENT
WOULD HAVE SEVERAL DAYS TO PREPARE ITS INDUSTRY FOR "SHOCK"
AND TO GIVE IMPRESSION IT HAD ZEALOUSLY DEFENDED
INDUSTRY'S INTERESTS. TO THE EXTENT THAT WE VALUE MITI'S
RELATION WITH THE JAPANESE INDUSTRY AND MITI'S ABILITY
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PAGE 03 TOKYO 05369 311150Z

TO SECURE INDUSTRY'S COOPERATION, EMBASSY HOPES A FEW
DAYS DELAY CAN BE ARRANGD.

7. PLEASE KEEP US INFORMED OF DECISIONS BEING MADE SO WE
CAN PASS INFORMATION PROMPTLY TO MITI. MANSFIELD

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Message Attributes

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